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APR 21 2008

Application No: 10/521,938
Amendment A
Reply to Office Action Dated 01/24/2008

Attorney Docket No: 3926.130

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are now pending in the application. Claims 2 and 7-12 have been amended.

Specification

The disclosure has been objected to because claims 1 and 5 were referred to in specification, page 2, paragraph 8.

Please note that paragraph 8 was amended to remove the reference to claims 1 and 5 in the preliminary amendment filed January 24, 2005.

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 12 have been objected to because of informalities.

Appropriate correction has been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoyer (DE 4409750).

- Claims 1-3 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Li (US 6,349,681).

Claims 3-6 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyer in view of Fischer et al. (US 6,354,259).

Claims 4-6 and 9-11 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li in view of Fischer et al.

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Claims 7 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoyer in view of Baltz et al. (US 6,298,899).

Hoyer teaches that a cylinder insert 6 is provided in certain areas with a double wall and thus has a coolant space (or water jacket) 7 (see col. 2, lines 36-38). The water jacket 7 is described in more detail in col. 2, line 55-56 (the water jacket is open upwards facing the cylinder head 1) and is also shown in the figures, particularly Fig. 4. Clearly, Hoyer teaches an open water jacket and not a "partially closed water jacket 7 located at the upper part of the cylinder barrels or double-walled cylinder insert or liner facing the cylinder head 1" as stated by the Examiner in the last paragraph on page 2 of the Office action. Therefore, Hoyer does not at all disclose a cylinder crankcase that includes a row of cylinder barrels having at least one water jacket, which is partially closed with respect to a side of the cylinder crankcase which faces a cylinder head, as recited in claims 1 and 7 of the instant application.

Li discloses a cylinder block in which iron liners, as pipe-shaped segments, are cast in an aluminum block and a water jacket around the pipe-shaped cylinder liners is formed in the casting process (see e.g. col. 3 line 62++). Furthermore, Li describes the advantages of his invention of a heat pipe being embedded in the cylinder block. Clearly, Li does not disclose or teach a row of cylinder barrels (as a cylinder liner), while the liner itself shows at least one water jacket, which is partially closed with respect to a side of the cylinder crankcase which faces a cylinder head, as recited in claims 1 and 7 of the instant application.

Other cited references do not make for the differences between the present invention and Hoyer or Li. Fischer only discloses a pipe-shaped cylinder liner without a water jacket for a single cylinder bore, coated by thermal spraying. Baltz discloses only a closed water jacket core in a specific embodiment, whereby water cooling is only provided in "pre-formed bridge cores" between adjacent cylinder bores.

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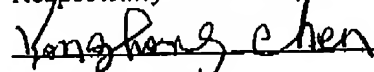
Claims 1 and 7 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all the dependent claims are dependent on claims 1 or 7, they are believed to be patentable as well.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-0951.

Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Date: April 21, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



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